

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 8, 2002 LB 1085

this state for directly in the use, installation, application. You know, I believe...and if I'm getting this wrong, that has not been taken into consideration in the past. But here again, we're grasping at straws and trying to find different things that aren't going to affect anyone too greatly in the state. And on page 9, of course, then we get into the...into the school...into the school levies and allowing those systems to maximize the levy by exceeding the levy limits and which...you know, if we're going to come at...go ahead and continue to cut our state aid and, to me, it's a "no-brainer" that we should allow those districts the ability to protect themselves with their...with whatever means they have available to them, rather than seeing what we were and went down the road for so many years trying to get our education to the point where we're happy with it. And I know, especially in my district, I am...the district, I have three, four school districts in Dodge County, and I'm very proud of all four of them. They are very progressive. They try to do what...what is right for the students in those districts, plus looking out for the people who are paying the bill, which are...which are the property owners in those counties. But if we are...we keep tinkering with the state aid formula, I am just...we are either...we are going...either going to ruin what we worked so hard, especially in the last 12 years, to try to provide for our students and try to ease the burden on the property tax owners. You still, when you talk to farmers and ranchers, they say we are...we are paying more than our fair share and, yes, maybe they are, but can you imagine what it would be like if we were back to where we were 12 or 14 years ago? That's nothing...it's nothing now what it would...what it would have been if we would have stayed under the old, same old system. So I think we're very fortunate in this state to be able to provide for our kids, not only in secondary education but what we're doing with the University of Nebraska and at Kearney and at Omaha, our state colleges at Wayne, Peru, and Chadron, I think we're providing the young people in this state with a...with an excellent opportunity to be educated. And you go along...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...and furthermore that we go on to the